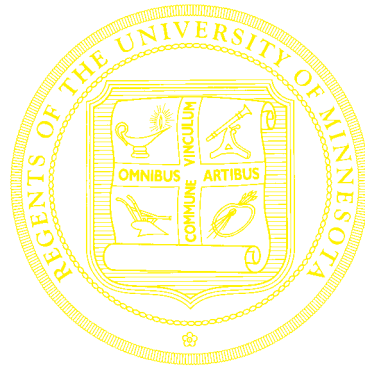


# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



## DOCTOR OF LAWS

Mohamed Benaïssa

Native of Asilah, Morocco; graduate of the University of Minnesota, B.S., communications, 1963; press attaché, regional information adviser, and director of information divisions for the United Nations and its Food and Agriculture Organization, 1964–76; member, Moroccan Parliament, 1976–92; editor-in-chief of daily newspapers *Al-Mithaq Al-Watani* and *Al-Maghrib*, 1980–85; founding member and president, 1978, of the Al-Mouhit Cultural Association, whose rehabilitation of Asilah was honored with the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, 1989; mayor of Asilah, 1983–present; Moroccan minister of culture, 1985–92; Moroccan ambassador to the United States, 1993–99; Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, 1999–2007—

Because you are a lifelong scholar of the world and its myriad cultures; because your *métier* reflects equal pride in your own nation and respect for the cultures of other countries; because your award-winning efforts to preserve and promote Morocco's heritage look to the future, emphasizing public participation and economic growth; because your diplomacy has continued to position Morocco as a strong and reliable ally of the United States and other nations by reaching outward—mediating difficult conflicts, expanding trade, supporting development initiatives, and fostering friendships based on cross-cultural understanding and appreciation; and because your distinguished public service and dynamic public engagement demonstrate the standard of global citizenship to which this institution aspires—

The Regents of the University of Minnesota,  
upon recommendation of the faculties, confer  
upon you, Mohamed Benaïssa, the degree of  
doctor of laws, *honoris causa*.

Conferred on

December 4, 2007